

MOORLANDS JUNIOR SCHOOL



Looked After Children (LAC) Policy

Ratified: September 2014
Reviewed: 6th November 2017
Due for review: November 2020

Overview

This policy will promote the educational achievement and welfare of Looked After Children (LAC), as identified under the Children Act 1989, attending this school.

It incorporates requirements set out in the statutory guidance on the duty to promote the educational achievement of Looked After Children under section 52 of the Children Act 2004 and the Statutory Guidance for School Governors (2009) and the Education Act 2014.

It will ensure that all staff, both teaching and non-teaching, have an understanding of the difficulties and educational disadvantage faced by Looked After Children and understand the need for positive systems of support to overcome them

Objectives

1. To follow the relevant statutory guidance to enhance the care, achievement and welfare of Looked After Children.
2. To set high expectations for Looked After Children and ensure equal access to the balanced and broadly-based education we provide for all.
3. To provide stability and continuity for Looked After Children.
4. To respect Looked After Children's confidentiality wherever possible.
5. To promote good communication between all those involved in the child's life.
6. To promote inclusion through challenging and changing attitudes towards Looked After Children
7. To promote staff awareness of, and sensitivity to, the difficulties and educational disadvantages of Looked After Children

Strategies

1. The school will appoint a teacher with designated responsibility for the care, achievement and welfare of LAC and where appropriate facilitate training and development opportunities so that they are able to increase their knowledge and understanding
2. The designated teacher will be responsible for the oversight of the development and monitoring of PEPs within the school and consulting with teachers to agree targets for Looked After Children.
3. The designated teacher will liaise with carers, social workers and the advocate for LAC regarding their PEP and any associated issues with their learning.
4. The school will appoint a governor with designated responsibility for monitoring this policy and the quality of the provision for LAC
5. All Looked After Children will have a Personal Education Plan (PEP) drawn up between the school, the child, and the child's social worker, which will identify the child's individual needs and the support they require.

6. The school will record, monitor, and improve the academic achievement of Looked After Children in addition to their promoting their care, health and wellbeing.
7. All teaching staff that are in contact with the child or young person will be made aware by the headteacher or designated teacher, that he/she is being looked-after by the Local Authority. The school will prioritise a reduction in exclusions of Looked After Children and promote their good attendance.
8. Looked After Children will in addition, have a designated mentor from within the school support staff to offer them individual support. The mentor will meet with the Looked After Child regularly to check progress and to listen to his/her views about both in school and out of school issues
9. The Pupil Premium funding for LAC will be used effectively for the benefit of that child in line with objectives laid down in the PEP.

Outcome

This policy will ensure that the school provides a good framework of support for LAC attending the School. It will foster a culture of high expectations for Looked After Children in staff and help raise the aspirations of looked after children as for all pupils.